

REMARKS

Summary of the Final Office Action

Claims 1 and 11 are objected to for minor informalities.

Claims 1, 11, and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shinichi (JP 3-152807) in view of Masaki et al. (JP 10-153788).

Response to the Final Office Action

In this Amendment in RCE (subsequent to the Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116), Applicants have amended claim 1. Claims 1, 11, and 20 are pending for consideration. An RCE has also been filed herewith.

Applicants respectfully assert that the Examiner's comments in the objection to the claims have been addressed. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the objection to the claims be withdrawn.

With respect to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), Applicants have amended claim 1 in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion in the Advisory Action dated March 13, 2003. In a telephonic interview on April 15, 2003 between the Examiner S. Hu and Applicants' undersigned representative, the Examiner confirmed that such amendments would likely overcome the rejection, but may raise new issues requiring further search and/or consideration. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be withdrawn.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and reexamination of the application and timely allowance of the pending claims. Should the

Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of the response, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned to expedite prosecution.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made by the current attachment. The attachment is captioned "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made."

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such as an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

Claim 1 has been amended as follows:

1. (Thrice Amended) A wire comprising a Cu (copper) layer ~~{covered}~~ contacted along at least one side by a first coating film made of titanium and ~~{covered}~~ contacted along at least three sides by a second coating film made of titanium oxide.